

19971221.ba v01_n843.bam.971221 v01_n844.bam.971221

>From ???@??? Sun Dec 21 01:10:19 1997
Message-Id: <199712210604.AAA01790@sco.theporch.com>
Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 00:04:36 CST
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 1843

BOATANCHORS Digest 1843

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Shipping Questions
by "Allan Fritsche" <fritsche@classic.msn.com>
- 2) FS: Broken Drake W4 wattmeter
by Bill Wilson <billo@internettport.net>
- 3) newspaper packing
by Ho4bart <Ho4bart@aol.com>
- 4) Re: FedEx will break your toys too
by Richard Loken <richardlo@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
- 5) Re: History question: Coherer & Decoherer
by Jacqueline Herman <jherman@sierra.net> (by way of Andre Guibert
<aguibert@sympatico.ca>)
- 6) 1841 Paint
by Jderm740 <Jderm740@aol.com>
- 7) Re: History question: Coherer & Decoherer
by "Mike B. Feher" <n4fs@monmouth.com>
- 8) Re: Ham Magazine Chronicles
by Ho4bart <Ho4bart@aol.com>
- 9) Capacitors and VR tubes
by "Arden Allen" <aallen@sirius.com>
- 10) Re: Shipping Questions
by Dan Arney <kn6di@groupone.net>
- 11) Re: How to pack and survive
by Dexter Francis <cwest@xmission.com>
- 12) [Fwd: need 30K-4 meters and 310C exciter]
by "Jack C. Shutt" <n9gt@fortwayne.infi.net>
- 13) Re: 6EV7 - 6AQ8 substitution
by Dexter Francis <cwest@xmission.com>
- 14) Use a shipping bag!!!
by Ed Tanton <n4xy@bellsouth.net>
- 15) Re: BOATANCHORS digest 1842
by Jderm740 <Jderm740@aol.com>
- 16) Re: Capacitors and VR tubes
by Bob Roehrig <broehrig@admin.aurora.edu>
- 17) Re: S-76 PROBLEMS
by Bob Roehrig <broehrig@admin.aurora.edu>
- 18) Re: newspaper packing
by Edward Zeranski <ejz@nosc.mil>

- 19) Listen to Hank, He Knows!
by "Robert Nickels" <ranickel@mwci.net>
- 20) Re: Capacitors and VR tubes
by "Arden Allen" <aallen@sirius.com>
- 21) Re: 6EV7 - 6AQ8 substitution
by "Arden Allen" <aallen@sirius.com>
- 22) Re: newspaper packing
by Tom Norris <badger@telalink.net>
- 23) Re: History question: Coherer & Decoherer
by "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
- 24) Re: newspaper packing
by bdhall@ghg.net (Benjamin D. Hall)

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 97 00:20:51 UT
From: "Allan Fritsche" <fritsche@classic.msn.com>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Shipping Questions
Message-ID: <UPMAIL03.199712210021160057@classic.msn.com>

Hello Gang, I am thinking about selling my Beautiful Matched set of
Hallis, The SX-101 MKIII and the newly restore HT-32...
Pick up only, I would ask for 400.00, but shipping cost should be what?

Were talking about 160 pounds of BA meat and I don't really have a
good idea about packing them for indestructible arrival at their
destination... Truck, Rail, FOB ?

Al
fritsche@classic.msn.com
KD5CML

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 18:43:48 -0600
From: Bill Wilson <billo@internettport.net>
To: "boatanchors@theporch.com" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: FS: Broken Drake W4 wattmeter
Message-ID: <349C6643.7B908170@internettport.net>

Greetings all,

Nice condition Drake W4...meter movement is broken...\$18 postpaid.

Regards,

Bill

W4BIZ

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 20:16:36 EST
From: Ho4bart <Ho4bart@aol.com>
To: boatanchors@sco.theporch.com
Subject: newspaper packing
Message-ID: <ed2b2c7.349c6df6@aol.com>

i never use this stuff myself, but my brother mentions that soybean-based ink is less ugly to deal with (less comes off on your paws, or on anything else.) USA Today i believe is printed with this and your local papers, probably not, yet.

i think UPS et all would do well to rent us bulletproof transit cases to ship breakables. a deposit would secure it for return just as with other rentals.
hue miller

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 18:25:05 -0700 (MST)
From: Richard Loken <richardlo@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>
To: Lurch <lurch@TheRamp.net>
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>,
~richardlo@devax.admin.athabascau.ca
Subject: Re: FedEx will break your toys too
Message-ID:
<Pine.PMDF.3.95.971220182217.545299600B-1000000@devax.admin.athabascau.ca>

RE: blowing all the tubes out. I may be paranoid but when I ship a radio I remove and pack the tubes and maybe ship them in the same carton, maybe not.

First radio I got sent me was a Drake R4 and the audio output tube flew away and self destructed, I waited two weeks for a tube so I could plug it in and try it out. Never for me.

Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS
Athabasca University
Athabasca, Alberta Canada
** richardlo@admin.athabascau.ca **

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 20:33:28 -0500 (EST)

From: Jacqueline Herman <jherman@sierra.net> (by way of Andre Guibert
<aguibert@sympatico.ca>)
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Re: History question: Coherer & Decoherer
Message-ID: <199712210133.UAA13331@smtp11.bellglobal.com>

On Sat, 20 Dec 1997, W0E0M wrote:

> Jeff -- the decoher {tapper} simply knocked loose the iron filings to be ready
> for the next dot or dash., so they could coher again.
> 73, Will

Yes, but how did it know when to do the knocking? It had to sense the end of a dit or dah, for if it didn't tap at the exact moment, the inker would continue to apply ink to the paper tape. As long as the iron filings were completing the inker circuit, the ink was being applied (the end of the dit or dah was not sensed by the coherer - the iron filings continued to complete the inker circuit even after the dit/dah ended). Somehow the decoherer had to sense the end of the of the dit/dah transmitted from the spark xmtr. How?

73, Jeff

Bonsoir to all
Just had the answer from Jean Paquet who built a
coherer and wrote a book on the history of radio.
The solution to differentiate the dot and the dash
is simply to transmit 5 or 6 dots one after the other
and the result is as good as a dash.
Andre
(Only Frenchmen has it)

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 20:48:25 EST
From: Jderm740 <Jderm740@aol.com>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: 1841 Paint
Message-ID: <b650f6f2.349c756c@aol.com>

With all the talk about the Snap-Crackle and Pop paint I seem to remember one called Wrackle. Earlier Allied catalogs listed it from CG, I Think.

Jack

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 20:50:42 -0800

From: "Mike B. Feher" <n4fs@monmouth.com>
To: <jherman@sierra.net>, "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: History question: Coherer & Decoherer
Message-ID: <199712210149.UAA24868@shell.monmouth.com>

Jeff -

I guess when you do not know the answer anything is believable. The Frenchman's solution is simply wrong. The decoherer only taps the coherer when it is in a low resistance state. So, it might not happen immediately after the RF stops but the very next tap, milliseconds later loosens up all the fillings and then since there is no more RF the resistance stays high and the bell or inker or tapper is no longer active until another burst of RF comes along. I have seen numerous coherer receivers work, and none of them required extra dots. But if his solution makes you happy so be it. 73s
- Mike

Mike B. Feher, N4FS
89 Arnold Blvd.
Howell, NJ, 07731
732-901-9193

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 21:23:58 EST
From: Ho4bart <Ho4bart@aol.com>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Re: Ham Magazine Chronicles
Message-ID: <d05822a2.349c7dc0@aol.com>

i think we should work up a list of radio-electronics magazines, their first & last issue date and brief description. i don't know if this would be proper fodder for posting on this group, and probably too hardcore for the rec.radio.antique shoppers, but i for one think the topic of all the different magazines would be very interesting -- i suspect for some others too. besides the wellknown and beloved national magazines there were some that are truly obscure -- some i would love to have, but have never even seen a copy.
perhaps "someday" daily transport and all the various "overhead" activities to support "real life" (like funtime activities....) will recede to second place....and someone can scan in EVERY darn issue of all of these.....then you can just go online and pull up any copy of Airborne Electronics News or Die Surag....

hue miller

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 18:31:52 -0800
From: "Arden Allen" <aallen@sirius.com>
To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Capacitors and VR tubes
Message-ID: <199712210230.SAA26071@mail1.sirius.com>

Dear Halli-phytes;

If my memory serves me right (I'm too lazy to look it up) the tube manuals warn you about bypassing VR tubes; a cap and the VR tube may form a relaxation oscillator circuit. So maybe that's why Halli left them out of receivers. I haven't tested this but I have never come accross an oscillating VR tube. Any thoughts/experience on this out there?

Give your loved ones Gummy Bears.
Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA aallen@sirius.com

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 18:31:05 -0800
From: Dan Arney <kn6di@groupone.net>
To: fritsche@classic.msn.com
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Shipping Questions
Message-ID: <349C7F67.BF1CC7F6@groupone.net>

Allan Fritsche wrote:

> Hello Gang, I am thinking about selling my Beautiful Matched set of
> Hallis, The SX-101 MKIII and the newly restore HT-32...
> Pick up only, I would ask for 400.00, but shipping cost should be
> what?
>
> Were talking about 160 pounds of BA meat and I don't really have a
> good idea about packing them for indestructible arrival at their
> destination... Truck, Rail, FOB ?
> Al
> fritsche@classic.msn.com
> KD5CML

Well gang here is how it is .Ihave been doing professional packing and shipping for over 17 years. The highest insured item was 2.5 mil painting, It was under armed guards all of the time in my Care/Custody & Control. Have packed a lot of electronics into the the 1,000's of

computers.

Following are some note,hints and whatever regardinf shipping.

1. UPS in NOT in the PACKAGING business. My rep and all of the people I have talked to know of any UPS centers that pack. They send us people from 4 sorts in the LA area. UPS owns 29% of the stock in Mail Boxes Etc. They send me FIP and crating jobs all of the time.

2. NOW I SHOUT IF IT MOVES IT WILL GET DAMAGED. PERIOD.

3. Peanuts/loose fill are great for small items that are internalily packed. For BA's etc they are a no no. as has been pointed out in seveeral of the postings.

4. I wrap all plug-in type units in a set when I pack it. I try to put a poly bag over the unit and tape it closed. We cut EPS (expanded polystyrene,beadboard) for commerical customers. We have a lot of EPS trim/scrap for packing. (you can buy sheets from like Home Depot/Home Base/Plumbing supply houses etc for packing.

4. For heavy itemes we bage it put 1" of EPS around it place it in a box tape it. Then put 2" of EPS sheets on all 4 sides in another box and tape it and use a box stapler to close it along with 3" kraft re-inforced non-asphatic tape to close it on all corners/major flaps and across top & bottom..

5. We normally charge \$50.00 for up through a R-390-A type item. plus UPS and insurance. It goea up from there. I have a case of Kleenex handy (man do they cry)

6. The foam in place is a whole new BALL GAME. for starters the Chemical cost me just under \$4.00 a pound and the gun shoots close to 6 pounds per min..This plus the cost of the box and plastic plus labor plus overhead, adds up. The process is to wrap the item in blus plastic. We then place loose fill scrap EPS cubes in the box then shoot foam into that with a sheet of plastic to overlay it as it grows 140% we the place the unit into the foam while it therms off. Then we lift the poly and fill the sides and ends and pat it down. Then we place aanothe sheet of poly over the item and put in more loose fill (to densify the FIP) too make it sturdier.Shoot more foam and cover it and close the flaps to make the foam conform to tha item. When it is received by the consignee, all he has to do is take the pad off and lift out the unit. IN GOOD SHAPE

7. The big problem with the above is that the HAMS bar none cry so loud that the neighbors call the police for all of the noise and hollering. In over 15 years I have not had a damage claim for an electronic item.

8. For heavier items we insist on doing a wooden crate with sheets of EPS. FIP is good up to about 40# per cubic foot. Crates with a weight of 70# plus at UPS are SUPPOSED to be handled by hand, not conveyor. Anything over 150# or if of high value we ship it by 3 to 5 day deffered air with full insurance. It is handled a lot better because we use fragile ,this end up and delicate instruments labels. UPS/FED-EX etc. have no special handling in thier tariffs. LABELS ARE GOOD AIM POINT TO KICK AT BY UPS/FED-EX ETC.

9. You can NDT test your package by packing it drop it off of the kitchen tables at least 5 or 6 time.then go out in the drive way and throw it as far as you can without throwing your back out of joint. do this at least 4 or 5 times, then for giggles kick it a few times, then pick it up and put in your yuppie wagon and go find a washboard street and drive a bout a 100 miles on it then get on the railroad tracks and drive about ten miles on it. Go home have three fingers of whatever, then open your box take it out and plug it in. If it works YOU WIN Now take it to UPS/FED-EX etc and ship it. If you want to forgo all of the above then take it to someone who knows how to pack it. By all means ask HOW THEY intend to do it. If it doesn't fit the above ,find somone else.

IF IT MOVES IT WILL BE A BASKET CASE.

Have a Very Happy Holiday/Christmas Season and a Prosperous New Years to All on the Net..

Great place great people.

TNX 73's

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 20:04:07 -0700
From: Dexter Francis <cwest@xmission.com>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Re: How to pack and survive
Message-ID: <349C8723.B6C@xmission.com>

Just a couple of thoughts on the shipping/packing thing:

1) This is the absolute worst time of year to ship stuff. Everyone's system is overloaded with Christmas presents. I sent a box off yesterday, 3 day UPS and they wouldn't guarantee it would get there in 3 days.

2) The comment about physics is dead on. But remember the type of foam you use should be selected based upon the weight and size of the item being shipped. The job

of the foam is to dissipate the energy of the drop. A stiff foam (poly-styrene) will crush a bit, then break. A softer foam (Urethane) is more elastic. What you have to do is think about what result you want. Styrene will compress and let the contents rattle. Urethane won't. Shock sensitive stuff wants soft urethane. Heavy items that can take some shock are OK with just styrene. Eyeballs are sort of the middle of the road. Don't use them if the items can't tolerate shifting around.

(Remember, the thing that kills car crash victims is their heart tearing away from the arteries. Seat belts take the shock and dissipate it out over a longer time.)

Bulky heavy stuff benefits from an outer layer of urethane foam. I always dig old foam mattresses out of trash dumpsters and cut them up with an electric carving knife. The other thing you can use is old carpet underlayment. Several list members have rec'd gear from me packed this way. If you keep your eyes open and scrounge, it won't cost an arm and a leg, so to speak.

-df

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Visit our Web site at <http://www.xmission.com/~cwest/>
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P.O. Box 22443, Salt Lake City, Utah 84122

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 03:02:28 -0500
From: "Jack C. Shutt" <n9gt@fortwayne.infi.net>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: [Fwd: need 30K-4 meters and 310C exciter]
Message-ID: <349CCD14.2728@fortwayne.infi.net>

Return-Path: <n9gt@fortwayne.infi.net>
Received: from pa2dsp13.fwa.infi.net (pa2dsp13.fwa.infi.net [206.31.173.61])
by fh101.infi.net (8.8.8/8.8.8) with SMTP id VAA14246;
Sat, 20 Dec 1997 21:48:34 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <349CC995.46D@fortwayne.infi.net>
Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 02:47:33 -0500
From: "Jack C. Shutt" <n9gt@fortwayne.infi.net>
Reply-To: n9gt@fortwayne.infi.net
Organization: InfiNet
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.0 (Win16; U)

MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Collins@listserv.tempe.gov
CC: n9gt@fortwayne.infi.net
Subject: need 30K-4 meters and 310C exciter
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello

I'm still looking for a couple of meters to complete restoration of my 30K-4:

1- Simpson Model 157 0-10 VAC 2 5/16" square

1- Simpson Model 127 0-10 ma DC 2 5/16" square

These are standard Simpson panel meters and do not have Collins logos.

I would really appreciate hearing from anyone who could help me locate these meters. I haven't been able to find any. One would think they would be common, but no luck so far.

I am also interested in a 310C-1 or 310C-2 exciter. Anyone have one they would like to get rid of?

73, Jack, N9GT

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 20:14:34 -0700
From: Dexter Francis <cwest@xmission.com>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Cc: zellmer@raccoon.com, DRAKE-L@fablotz.min.net
Subject: Re: 6EV7 - 6AQ8 substitution
Message-ID: <349C8995.5ABC@xmission.com>

According to my books the 6AQ8 could substitute for a 6EV7. Unfortunately my RC-23 and RC-27 Databooks don't show a set of curves for the 6AQ8. Pinouts are the same, but the EV7 is specifically described as a relay control tube and the AQ8 is a RF amp.

-- df

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e-mail to: tubes@usa.net -or- cwest@xmission.com
P.O. Box 22443, Salt Lake City, Utah 84122

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 22:22:06 -0500
From: Ed Tanton <n4xy@bellsouth.net>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Use a shipping bag!!!
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19971220222206.00ba0610@mail.atl.bellsouth.net>

Biggest single reason to wrap BAs in a garbage bag/etc. first when shipping? It takes about 45 minutes to get all the thousands of tiny foam chips and pieces out of nooks and crannies when your BA doesn't have a top or bottom cover.

I got an AR-88 that was incredible. For those unfamiliar with the AR-88, it's bottom cover (which mine doesn't have... anybody got one???) is held on by probably 20-40 machine screws (minus heads) fastened to the interior side walls of the bottom, and sticking out. Each screw did its dead level best to gouge as many flakes of foam out of the otherwise-excellent packaging job's foam sheets. There might have been millions of flakes-I lost count. A single garbage bag around it would have prevented this-not to mention the odd case of water somehow getting through the box(es).

Same day got an SP-600-VLF-31 that was similarly foreign-object/chip-resistance challenged... it took only half an hour, since it didn't have all those screws poking into the foam to generate excess chips. Used my small mini-vac hose and emptied it 3-4 times between the two.

Incidentally: both via UPS, both heavily secured in at least double 1" wall foam sheets, both heavy as all get out, and both in perfect condition-shipping-wise!!! (Maybe one or both were double boxed-I forget.)

Ed Tanton N4XY EMAIL: n4xy@bellsouth.net
189 Pioneer Trail
Marietta, GA 30068-3466 TEL: (770)579-3933 V/MBX/FAX

"Think you can, think you can't: either way you're right!" Henry Ford

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 22:24:32 EST
From: Jderm740 <Jderm740@aol.com>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com

Subject: Re: BOATANCHORS digest 1842
Message-ID: <1faceab5.349c8bf2@aol.com>

Hi All

If anyone is still looking for Bristol Spline wrenches, I still have six sets available for \$10.00 shipped Conus.

These are 10 wrenches in 4 spline and 6 spline sizes from 1/16 to 3/16 th. They are "L" shaped like an Allan wrench.

Jack Jderm740@aol.com

John McDermott
Box 8
Stratford, Ct 06497

203 333 8005

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 21:32:25 -0600 (CST)
From: Bob Roehrig <broehrig@admin.aurora.edu>
To: Arden Allen <aallen@sirius.com>
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Capacitors and VR tubes
Message-ID: <Pine.ULT.3.96.971220212921.2617B-1000000@admin.aurora.edu>

On Sat, 20 Dec 1997, Arden Allen wrote:

>
> If my memory serves me right (I'm too lazy to look it up) the tube manuals
> warn you about bypassing VR tubes; a cap and the VR tube may form a
> relaxation oscillator circuit. So maybe that's why Halli left them out of
> receivers. I haven't tested this but I have never come accross an
> oscillating VR tube. Any thoughts/experience on this out there?

I have had that happen. I think it depends on the size of the cap and maybe how much current is flowing thru the tube. There is both a minimum firing voltage and a minimum current thru it to sustain operation. I seem to recall that I had a problem when there was an electrolytic cap across the tube. But a small RF bypass should not be a problem.

"Nostalgia is a thing of the past"
E-mail broehrig@admin.aurora.edu 73 de Bob, K9EUI
CIS: Data / Telecom Aurora University, Aurora, IL
630-844-4898 Fax 630-844-5530

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 21:51:02 -0600 (CST)
From: Bob Roehrig <broehrig@admin.aurora.edu>
To: JOHN SEHRING <JOHN_SEHRING.parti@ecunet.org>
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: S-76 PROBLEMS
Message-ID: <Pine.ULT.3.96.971220213254.2617C-1000000@admin.aurora.edu>

On Sat, 20 Dec 1997, JOHN SEHRING wrote:

> Yes! The S-76, SX-96, -100, -101, -101A, -122 share a great deal of the
> same circuitry esp. the IF strip on ward.

Not surprised at that I guess. Why reinvent the wheel. If it works,
don't change it, etc.....

> There is a a .02 uF bypass cap on the +150V regulated line but only when
> the BFO is turned on! That doesn't help keep the line clean of RF when
> the BFO is off!

Yup!

> On one hand, a low series resistance makes the combo of VR tube & dropping
> resistor look more like a constant voltage (low Z) source rather than a
> constant current source.

>

> On the other hand, having the VR tube draw lots of current means that a
> fluctuating load on the regulated line will be a smaller % of the total
> current draw on the regulated line.

I would have thought that if the VR is conducting, it would not make much
difference (withing the proper current range) what the limiting resistor
was. Hmmm..... What does the impedance of a conducting VR tube really
look like. Math-wise, you could say that 30ma thru a VR-150 would
make it look like a 5K resistor, but is that really the case with a
clamp device like a VR tube or Zener diode?

> The SX-100 uses the same power xfmr & B+ is spec'd the same, 270 V. But
> the -100 has more tubes.

Maybe I'm being picky, but if ya look in the tube manuals, most of the
common tubes listed in there give a normal operating plate voltage of
250 and a max of 300. Why did these designers like "odd" supply voltages
like 270. I'd rather run things lower and extend life.

Thanks for your thoughts and comments. I must say that I have had quite
a few Hallis in my ham career and never really had problems with them.

Probably only because I have had problems with this one (something in the IF is still cutting out) have I spent quite so much time on various aspects of its quirks.

"Nostalgia is a thing of the past"
E-mail broehrig@admin.aurora.edu 73 de Bob, K9EUI
CIS: Data / Telecom Aurora University, Aurora, IL
630-844-4898 Fax 630-844-5530

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 20:01:10 -0800
From: Edward Zeranski <ejz@nosc.mil>
To: Ho4bart@aol.com, boatanchors@theporch.com
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com, boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Re: newspaper packing
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.19971220200110.0071d95c@marlin.nosc.mil>

At 08:16 PM 12/20/97 EST, you wrote:
>i never use this stuff myself,

Well guesswhattttt! Steve Finelli sent me an RAK receiver /control box/pwr supply packed in balled up newspaper and the God Damned thing arrived just primo! Then...used the same stuff,(Fenelli detritus) was used (actual same Finelli based paper scrap)to send 2 RAX receivers/w manual(originally from Ray Mote) to Dave Stinson in Texas. Ray gave 'em to me so I passed 'em on. Balled newsprint, when packed works.

Ed Zeranski This is a private opinion or statement.
home email: ezeran@cris.com

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 21:56:47 +0000
From: "Robert Nickels" <ranickel@mwci.net>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Listen to Hank, He Knows!
Message-ID: <199712210357.VAA05835@subcellar.mwci.net>

Hi All,

I'm glad Hank KN6DI spoke up, now all you have to do if you ever want to ship or receive a BA in good shape is save his posting and follow his instructions!

I know - - I just received a very rare Collins R-389 that was packed

by Hank just as described (double boxed with EPS sheet all 'round) and it made the trip from CA to IL in perfect condition. In fact, the packing boxes were shipped to MD where they were filled up with an R-390 that hopefully will be here just ahead of Santa. (Look in the TM and you'll see this is basically how the Army packed the 390, with EPS instead of wooden cleats and less the vaporproof barrier and silica gel!) These radios were shipped all over the country when they were new, and you can bet that UPS and FedEx handle things at least as well as the old Railway Express and the like who relied on the "Armstrong method".

If you think about the physics involved, as Ben Hall has done, you can see how proper packaging should be done. The only addition I'd make is to add a 1/4" plywood reinforcement in the bottom of the outer box, like Hank did for me. And don't forget to remove or brace/support heavy areas like power supplies that sit in flimsy speaker boxes. Those sheet-metal screws won't stop the p/s from becoming a pile-driver!

Will this method cost more than some leftover "peanuts" and old wadded-up newspaper? You bet! Ignore the folklore and follow Hank's advice and you won't regret it.

73 and Happy Holidays!

Bob W9RAN

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 20:00:18 -0800
From: "Arden Allen" <aallen@sirius.com>
To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Capacitors and VR tubes
Message-ID: <199712210359.TAA28422@mail1.sirius.com>

"If the associated circuit has a capacitor in shunt with the tube, the capacitor should be limited in value to 0.1 uF. A larger value may cause the tube to oscillate and thus give unstable regulation performance."

>From RCA Receiving Tube Manual RC-28 (1971); Operating Considerations for the 0A2, p. 113.

(I managed to get the ol' duff outa the chair)

Y'all keep regular!

Give your loved ones Gummy Bears.
Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA aallen@sirius.com

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 20:32:00 -0800
From: "Arden Allen" <aallen@sirius.com>
To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: 6EV7 - 6AQ8 substitution
Message-ID: <199712210430.UAA29267@mail1.sirius.com>

> From Dexter Francis:
> According to my books the 6AQ8 could substitute for a 6EV7.
> Unfortunately my RC-23 and RC-27 Databooks don't show a set
> of curves for the 6AQ8. Pinouts are the same, but the EV7
> is specifically described as a relay control tube and the
> AQ8 is a RF amp.

The only reason the 6AQ8 is the only shown sub is because of similar characteristics to the 6EV7 and the same basing according to Sylvania's Average Characteristics (c. 1970). 6AQ8's are not too plentiful. How about a 12AT7? It's an even closer match 'cept for filament. With a minor filament wiring change (connect pins 4 and 5 together for 6.3 V operation with pin 9) you should be ok. 'AT7's ain't hard to find.

Give your loved ones Gummy Bears.
Arden Allen KB6NAX Vallejo, CA aallen@sirius.com

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 23:50:43 -0600
From: Tom Norris <badger@telalink.net>
To: ejz@nosc.mil
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Re: newspaper packing
Message-ID: <3.0.3.32.19971220235043.02ed364c@mail1.telalink.net>

At 08:01 PM 12/20/97 -0800, Ed wrote:

>
>Well guesswhattttt! Steve Finelli sent me an RAK receiver /control box/pwr
>supply packed in balled up newspaper and the God Damned thing arrived just

I have been ordering items from Fair Radio for about 25 years now and that is all they have ever used to pack with that I can recall. Never got a damaged

piece
in all that time that was either shipped UPS or Parcel Post.

FWIW

Tom

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 00:07:03 -0500 (EST)
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indy.net>
To: Jacqueline Herman <jherman@sierra.net>
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: History question: Coherer & Decoherer
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.96.971220225207.18737A-100000@indy3>

Hi, Jeff!

Well, I'll have a stab at it. Mike and Andre are sorta sniping, which is a waste of the time of two very sharp guys--especially since they are both right. (It irks me to see this sort of thing, especially to Andre who is so outstandingly patient about linguistic differences; I've *been* to French Canada and it's more than any Anglophone has a right to expect).

The coherer detector is, like a lot of Victorian machinery, cleverer than it might look at first sight. What we have here is a servo system, with some (very slight) delay in the loop, and one that can take alot of fiddling to get right.

Will it show several quick dits as a dah? Sure, if there's enough delay in the loop: quick dits get lost.

First, let us build a little mental model of the coherer; Professor Branley of France will assist, since he happened to build the first ones; he was after lightning protection for telegraph lines. What he ended up with was a gadget that starts conducting in the presence of RF, but alas, it "latches on" and will keep on conducting afterwards. Give it a rap and it resets; if the RF's still there, it starts up conducting again.

But it's got another problem; it doesn't like carrying a large DC current. (These two problems pointed Branley in another direction for lightning protection but he knew what he had and wrote it up).

Ahh, but Branley, Marconi, et al had access to an already sophisticated technology, one that dealt with needing to make a small current do big work: landline telegraphy!

And they used it almost right out of the box: the coherer's in series with a small battery and the coil of a sensitive relay. (Ask the key collector folks, who call 'em "pony relays.") The relay contacts (NO

if ya please) are in series with a second battery (one with some oomph), the tapper coils (which, with their clapper, are borrowed from the kind of little bell you can drive right to the hardware store and buy today) and the coil of a Morse inker if needed.

What happens when we send a signal? Let's start with an old US landline zero, a nice fat long dah.

The RF starts; the coherer coheres, the pony relay kicks in, the tapper hits the coherer and the pen of the morse inker (highly damped) jerks over; the tapper hits the coherer, it decoheres--and coheres right back 'cos we still have the key held down on the other end. The cycle starts over, and the "off" time isn't long enough for inker to do more than start to bobble.

This continues over and over again 'til we let up on the key, accompanied by a slight "brrrr" from the tapper & coherer; you'll never copy it in a boiler room (though in a lab, sure), it's not terribly loud, since the coherer is a chunk of *glass* tubing and if it gets hit too hard, it's not a detector any more, just some broken glass, bits of metal and a heap of nickle-silver filings. That's why there's an inker in the works. Heck, we could cheat if we wanted, and just add a complete bell instead of the inker and copy it off by ear. There are other ways, too--a slow-release sounder (or a sounder driven by a pony relay set up to drop out at an interval greater than the coherer-tapper period) will work just fine and Bill "I'm just an amateur" Marconi did just that in some of his early set-ups. Slow-release relays aren't too big a trick--anyone who didn't sleep through grammar school science can come up with a few ways after thinking about it, and the telegraph engineers were well aware of 'em in the 1890s. (Big, fat hint, it takes less current to hold a relay in than to pull it in).

Back to our thought-model; let us hand the key to the local CW speed merchant, who spends ten minutes adjusting tension, spacing and bearing slop, five minutes telling us the key is NG and we were fools to buy it, and then bangs out "She is his sis" at 87.95 wpm. Ooops--he's sending faster than the servo delay in the coherer detector, and what we copy at the far end (being in landline mode) is something like LTLL, or maybe a Continental Y. Better toss de bum out, he'll never make a wireless op! (This, btw, is another reason the landline ops were not terribly impressed with wireless ops, and why Continental got popular; to this day, radio code is sent "heavier" than landline, and usually not as fast!)

So there ya go. It looked like a few bits and pieces of Victorian junk, thrown together almost at random 'til noise came out; but it's a sophisticated two-loop RF detection system, with feedback--a setup that *ought* to be no more sensitive than a brickbat (yet is, slightly), but one that was used with some success over pretty good distance, due to careful design and even more careful adjustment. Modern versions will probably not work as well as the originals without considerable time spent

in learning how to set 'em up. It **is** rocket science, or the equivalent in its day!

The one thing I am not sure about (and the photos and drawings in my references don't make clear) is whether or not the tapper arm opens a contact in series with its coils when they draw it in. It makes good sense if it does, it looks like it does, and if so, would speed up the "servo loop," since it cuts **right** off without having to wait for the coherer to decohere; as long as there's RF present, the coherer will snap right back into a conducting state anyhow. I **am** sure that the system played off differing mechanical response times, and counted on a middling high degree of damping in the inker. A doorbell's what, 500-700 cycles though servo delay may halve or quarter that; way slower than 10-15 wpm CW.

(Gee, the more I look at this, the more it is The Same Old Problems of making electronics work; the parts are different and the circuits are simpler but anyone who has wrestled with a PLL and known what it was or should be doing has been here).

Anyone who finds this very early tech of interest (and it's **darn** early, the maggie detector (and others) having been adopted rather rapidly, them being as sensitive as a brickbat with some galena impurities) should find a copy of VK2AQJ/G4GZT Peter R. Jensen's "In Marconi's Footsteps - Early Radio;" the good Mr. Jensen not only went and looked at and photographed the **actual** gear, papers and most of the sites, he took his notes and photos and drawings home and **built** **working** **copies** of the gear. **Then** he wrote his book! It's real, hands-on stuff from a man who I'd count as the last classic wireless op in the world, and probably the only one who can tell ya how to set up and maintain a whole Marconi spark or arc shipboard or small shore station.

73,
--Bobbi

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 23:59:52 -0600
From: bdhall@ghg.net (Benjamin D. Hall)
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: newspaper packing
Message-ID: <3.0.32.19971220235945.006f6aac@mailman.ghgcorp.com>

>I have been ordering items from Fair Radio for about 25 years now and that is
>all they have ever used to pack with that I can recall. Never got a damaged
>piece in all that time that was either shipped UPS or Parcel Post.

I guess since I slammed newspaper packing fairly hard, I should explain why:

I've only had one peice of gear damaged on the way to me. It was an R-390A power supply module, shipped from Fair, packed in newspaper. Probably about 3" surrounding it. There just was no way that newspaper could have ever properly protected that power supply - it just couldn't dissipate the required energy, just too flimsy... Of course, UPS sure put it thru a rough ride! :-0

thanks and 73,

ben

<bold><bigger>Benjamin D. Hall</bigger></bold>, KD5BYB, Engine and radio collector / operator.

Located in Houston, Texas, USA.

e-mail: BDHall@ghg.net, web: <http://www.ghgcorp.com/bdhall>.

<bold><italic><bigger>"An ye harm none, do what ye will."</bigger></italic></bold>

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 1843

>From ???@??? Sun Dec 21 23:08:57 1997
Message-Id: <199712220354.VAA29495@sco.theporch.com>
Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 21:54:54 CST
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 1844

BOATANCHORS Digest 1844

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Re: Capacitors and VR tubes
by John Kolb <jlkolb@cts.com>
- 2) NEC CQ110E
by Nicola Priano <nipriano@mbx.vol.it>
- 3) Re: Shipping Questions
by "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>

- 4) WTB: SC-101 manual
by Joe Eide <jeide@execpc.com>
- 5) WTB Want List - purchase
by Steven@ix.netcom.com
- 6) packing and my thanks
by Lurch <lurch@TheRamp.net>
- 7) VR osc
by philip mccooy <dgnova@erols.com>
- 8) FS: Mini Key
by "William C. Robbins" <billrobb@net-link.net>
- 9) FS/FT: crystals
by Brian.Harris@sv.sc.philips.com (Brian Harris)
- 10) Hammarlund SP-200 -- July '60 QST Mods?
by provero@connix.com
- 11) Unobtainium wanted!
by Bill Meara <wmeara@erols.com>
- 12) General Radio 1932-A
by Brian.Harris@sv.sc.philips.com (Brian Harris)
- 13) Larry's wish list, Christmas version
by "Lawrence R. Ware" <lrware@pipeline.com>
- 14) 390A AGC Repair
by Dan Martin <dmartin@visuallink.com>
- 15) Re: 390A AGC Repair
by Al Klase <skywaves@bw.webex.net>
- 16) FS Collins 310C2 VFO w/pwr sup
by lrm-brm@juno.com
- 17) Re: 390A AGC Repair
by "Arden Allen" <aallen@sirius.com>
- 18) wanted items
by Bob Roehrig <broehrig@admin.aurora.edu>
- 19) Microphones
by "Jack Hart" <wa2hwj@worldnet.att.net>
- 20) mike appraisal
by Brian.Harris@sv.sc.philips.com (Brian Harris)
- 21) Small Claims Court + Damage
by "larry W6WUH" <rau@wco.com>
- 22) Safe Radio Transport
by "larry W6WUH" <rau@wco.com>
- 23) Re: 390A AGC Repair -- 410B story
by jackiv@juno.com (John M Iverson)
- 24) Collins 310C2 spoken for.
by lrm-brm@juno.com
- 25) shipbreaking in the USA
by Ho4bart <Ho4bart@aol.com>
- 26) Swan 350C...and...
by Ken Gordon <keng@uidaho.edu>
- 27) DX-60 hum
by Ken Brookner <brooknerk@acm.org>

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 22:21:59 -0800 (PST)
From: John Kolb <jlkolb@cts.com>
To: Arden Allen <aallen@SIRIUS.COM>
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Capacitors and VR tubes
Message-ID: <Pine.SCO.3.91.971220220956.23591C-100000@sd.cts.com>

On Sat, 20 Dec 1997, Arden Allen wrote:

> Dear Halli-phytes;
>
> If my memory serves me right (I'm too lazy to look it up) the tube manuals
> warn you about bypassing VR tubes; a cap and the VR tube may form a
> relaxation oscillator circuit. So maybe that's why Halli left them out of

Ah yes, I remember all the neon tubes used as oscillators type articles
in Pop'tronics, etc.

Seems like that would be a problem only if the series resistor
feeding the VR tube were too high. The oscillator works as follows:

Current flows through the series resistor charging up the cap
until the voltage across the cap reaches the striking voltage of
the VR tube (or neon tube). When that voltage is reached, the
gases in the tube ionize and start conducting. The voltage across
the tube then drops to the sustaining voltage. If the current
available to flow through the tube is too low, the tube turns off
and won't fire again until the voltage charges up to the striking
voltage again.

Tube manual listing for the 0A2 and several other similar tubes
lists 5 mA as the minimum current. Also warns that bypass caps
larger than 0.1 uF can cause oscillation.

John KK6IL

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 07:25:29 +0100
From: Nicola Priano <nipriano@mbx.vol.it>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: NEC CQ110E
Message-ID: <199712210625.AAA02321@sco.theporch.com>

Hi

I have bought at last ham fest a SWAN 500CX and a NEC CQ110E.
The SWAN works ok but the NEC has some problems and there is no manual
nor schematic.

Does anyone knows where to find information about this rig.

I apologise is it is not a proper boatanchor.
However considering it is very heavy and uses several tubes I hope You will
accept it.

Thanks in advance

Nick IK1YWF

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 09:51:36 -0000
From: "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
To: <fritsche@classic.msn.com>, "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Shipping Questions
Message-ID: <199712211341.IAA23237@atl.org>

Al et-al :-)

Motor freight is THE bargain for \$2/lb to \$5/lb
value items. Shipped 450lb (Sept) from Atlanta
to LA for \$115 and insurance coverage was \$900
included in freight charge. I shipped as 'electrical
goods' which have the \$2/lb valuation. Electronics
is \$5 but costs more to ship.

Stuff must be on a pallet!
You'll pay a little extra for lift gate pick up and delivery.
Pallets seldom get dropped.
Sometimes the forks on the lift pierce the stuff on the
pallet so wood sides in your box is a good idea.
The stuff vibrates and slides around in the truck so
strap your crates to the pallet.

Good idea to put big NO STACK labels unless your
stuff is in a crate on the pallet.

Look in local yellow pages under freight agents.

If you're willing to gamble, you can just stack your

gear on the pallet and wrap with shrink wrap. I ship computer debris (including monitors) like this and seldom see any damage.

As an aside. Air freight, unless you specify that it go on an airplane, often gets stacked on a pallet and goes by truck :-)

-bob

Truck, Rail, FOB ?
| Al
| fritsche@classic.msn.com
| KD5CML
|

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 08:19:34 -0600
From: Joe Eide <jeide@execpc.com>
To: COLLINS@LISTSERV.TEMPE.GOV
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: WTB: SC-101 manual
Message-ID: <349D2576.7AA0@execpc.com>

Would like to find a copy or original manual for the SC-101 station control system (or the 312A-2 speaker).

Can anyone make my Xmas for me?

Best of the holidays! .. Joe - KB9R 715-834-4582 jeide@execpc.com

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 08:38:11 -0600 (CST)
From: Steven@ix.netcom.com
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: WTB Want List - purchase
Message-ID: <1997122183641141@ix.netcom.com>

Fellow Boaterites

Here's my holiday want/shopping list, please let me know what you have for sale:

Heath DX100
Collins 310B-3

Vibroplex Bug
McElroy Bug
Johnson Navigator
KOB, Box Relay, etc.
Hammarlund SP200SX
Hammarlund Speakers
Hammarlund receivers (old - any type)
BC610
Pre WWII transmitter

Here's what I would like but can't afford:
Collins KW-1
Johnson Desk Killowatt
(so I just look at the pictures and pretend alot)

If you have any of the above in working unmodified condition (blue collar condition OK and desired), please e mail me. I'll be at the South Bend, Indiana hamfest (next month - January) and also the Hamfest at the Odium in Chicagoland this January. Prefer local deals.

73 and seasons greetings

Steve k2pts
schaumburg, Illinois

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 09:27:24 -0600
From: Lurch <lurch@TheRamp.net>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Cc: collins@listserv.tempe.gov
Subject: packing and my thanks
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.19971221092724.00793ac0@mail.TheRamp.net>

Many thanks to all who responded with helpful suggestions and support in re: the FedEx debacle with the S-lines. The support and help received, is what amateur radio and brotherhood are about.

So far only one individual has found it necessary to write me and make a personal issue out of it pontificating about their perception of my integrity and morals as opposed to the dozens who have offered suggestions and support--that's pretty good odds.

I'm still looking for the dimesnions for the 32S3 spotting switch shaft so i can make a new one for Dave...please, someone out there has to have both

a 32S3 AND a caliper...

73 de ka9egw

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 97 11:25:26 -0800
From: philip mccoys <dgnova@erols.com>
To: boatanchors@sco.theporch.com
Subject: VR osc
Message-ID: <199712211533.KAA12329@smtp1.erols.com>

Re VR tubes oscillating, I had one oscillating at about 100kc in a receiver.
It took a heck of a long time to find the problem.

Philip McCoy dgnova@erols.com

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 10:57:56 -0500
From: "William C. Robbins" <billrobb@net-link.net>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: FS: Mini Key
Message-ID: <199712211557.KAA16905@serv01.net-link.net>

I have for sale a miniature CW key. It has a tear-drop button, a wrinkle
paint slide-on cover and a pre-wired heavy duty cable for connection. It
also has the button on top of the slide-on cover for the leg
strap...INCLUDED. This is military and very unique.

\$38 shipped.

Happy Holidays

Bill

Heathkit Collector
WA8CDU formally WN8CDU

Date: Sat, 20 Dec 1997 15:07:49 -0800

From: Brian.Harris@sv.sc.philips.com (Brian Harris)
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: FS/FT: crystals
Message-ID: <000E9CD8.001914@svlima.sv.sc.philips.com>

I have fifty-one U.S. Army Signal Corps FT-241-A crystals manufactured by Western Electric. I don't know what equipment they are for and I lost the reference (in a disk crash) which detailed the actual crystal frequencies. All I have is their channel numbers and operating frequencies. These have black housings with a white tops and raised markings. All of them appear to be in good shape. The operating frequencies are on the holders but I will not include them here for brevity.

6,7,8,9,10,13,14,18,19,20,22,23,24,25,26,28,29,30,31,32,33,36,37,38,40,41,42,47,48,52,53,54,55,56,58,60,61,64,66,68,69,71,72,73,75,76,77,78,79 and extra 64 and 68

I have no idea what they are worth. I do know I don't need or want them. Make me a reasonable (or unreasonable) offer and they are yours. I am looking for some older crystals (Bliley, Bud, etc.) with 3/4" spacing and banana plug size pins to go with my Collins Model 30W transmitter which can be seen in the 1998 CQ Classic Calender. Thanks.

Brian Harris WA5UEK 'The Cosmophone Collector'

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 97 12:55:37 -0500
From: provero@connix.com
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Hammarlund SP-200 -- July '60 QST Mods?
Message-ID: <199712211808.NAA22355@comet.connix.com>

Was doing some minor work on a SP-210LX this morning (cleaning noisy RF and AF pots) when I noticed the following ink stamp on the left side of the crystal filter assembly, mostly underneath the diagonal brace (which is why I probably didn't notice it before):

CRYSTAL FILTER
465 KC
QST JULY 1960

This is all in the same type, so it doesn't seem to be different stamps at different times.

I have collected a number of SuperPro modification articles, mostly from CQ. Is there a SuperPro or crystal filter article in the July 60 QST?

This same receiver has a small box plugged in at V9 (should be noise limiter, V9, 6N7). This box has a 6AH5, crystal, and ceramic trimmer cap in it. I'd assume it was a crystal calibrator, but the noise limiter function seems to work. Haven't taken the box completely apart to see the xtal frequency, or traced all the wiring to see if the location has been changed from the end of the IF chain to something more appropriate for a calibrator.

If any of this rings a bell, please let me know.

P.J. "Josh" Rovero	home:	provero@connix.com
Meteorologist	radio:	KK1D
Oceanographer	work:	rovero@sonalysts.com
Curmudgeon-at-Large	web:	http://www.connix.com/~provero/

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 20:04:12 -0400
From: Bill Meara <wmeara@erols.com>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Unobtainium wanted!
Message-ID: <199712212004.PAA18831@smtp3.erols.com>

Being that it is the Christmas season and all, I thought I would take advantage and launch one of my periodic pleas for unobtainium:

WANTED BY N2CQR:

One 2-4 Mc. plug in coil for a B&W Little Dipper. (Wouldn't you know it, I've got all the rest, but that's the one I really need!)

Driver plate coil and switch assembly for DX-60 or DX-60B. (I'm currently stranded on 40, the victim of a previous owners perverse attempt to put this rig on 10 Ghz or one of those other weird bands.)

Lafayette HA-600A Receiver. Rid yourself of this solid state radio! Move your shack closer to "tube only" status! Send it to me! I need it for nostalgia purposes (Christmas present, 1973!)

Tuning dial skirt for the Drake 2-B receiver.

Merry Christmas to all! May all your shacks be warmed by the glow of thermionic emission!

73 de N2CQR
Bill Meara, Falls Church, Virginia
wmeara@erols.com
<http://www.mindspring.com/~johnmb/billm.htm>

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 15:00:27 -0800
From: Brian.Harris@sv.sc.philips.com (Brian Harris)
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: General Radio 1932-A
Message-ID: <000E9DE7.001914@svlima.sv.sc.philips.com>

I need manual (or copy) for an RCA WM-71A Distortion and Noise Meter. This unit was manufactured by General Radio for RCA and is similar to, and perhaps the same as, a General Radio 1932-A. Thanks in advance.

Brian Harris WA5UEK

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 16:11:39 +0000
From: "Lawrence R. Ware" <lrware@pipeline.com>
To: boatanchors@sco.theporch.com
Subject: Larry's wish list, Christmas version
Message-ID: <3.0.32.19971221161133.006fe2dc@pop.pipeline.com>

Good evening folks, this is my: "posted a couple times a year" unfilled want list. (Christmas version!)
Willing to pay cash, trade if I have something you might want, or work out some kind of agreement. :-)

Items I'm always on the lookout for include:

National NC-100 variants, including RAO's, etc.
I'm also looking for the original NC-100, with the art deco front and tuning eye as shown on page 102 in Moore's 4th. Would also take the NC-100X on page 103. I want one with the art-deco front and red trim, and general coverage only.
I'm *not* interested in the NC-101, 101X ham band only models.
I want one nice enough to put in my living room.
This would make a wonderful Christmas present to myself!

I have to trade: One National ex military HRO-MX (RC-105) W/eight coil sets, coil box, and two power supplies. Original doghouse has bad main transformer, home made replacement works very well. This is not a "Jr" version, it does have a crystal filter and s-meter. Radio completely recapped recently, 95% new resistors, just

tuned up and I have a set of spare NOS tubes for it. Could use some paint touch up, but no rust. Outside of unit is about 7.5, inside is 9+... This is a *very* nice HRO, and it works very well.

Please drop me a note if you have a nice art deco NC-100 or NC-100X and what you really want is a nice HRO.

Other items on my current "wish list:"

Any HRO-60 coil set except, A,B,C,D,E,AC.
Broken Tek 7000 series test equipment for parts.
Tek 7000 test fixtures, including extenders.
John Fluke 6011A sig gen.
Large display dud transmitter tubes.

Before I wander wander off into the electron noise,
I'd like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas!
And warn you that I've been real slow about my e-mail lately do to extensive work related travel.

Thanks, and enjoy the holidays!
-Larry

-Larry Ware
lrware@pipeline.com
Orlando, Florida

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 16:19:45 -0500
From: Dan Martin <dmartin@visuallink.com>
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: 390A AGC Repair
Message-ID: <349D87F1.4F1A@visuallink.com>

Merry Christmas, all: (This is LONG!. Delete now if not interested!)

I've learned more about the 390A AGC system in the last week than I wanted to and, with encouragement from a couple in our midst, felt I'd post my experience. While this may be a ho-hum review for many, it could help someone with a similar problem. At issue is my '67 EAC serial #4615. I bought this unit from Jim Stitzinger about 4 years ago when I lived in CA. Jim also had a second 390A at the time that he offered me for a song. It was an all-original Collins that he was going to keep (Jim LIKES Collins, by the way) until he discovered a Cosmos PTO in it. In a moment of weakness (or stupidity?), I declined, and bought only the EAC since it was near-new and the Collins had a worn panel. In a second

moment of weakness, nah - I'm *sure* this was stupidity, I later briefly swapped away my EAC, swapping back for it in the last year. (The significance of this period of absence from my possession will become evident later.) Anyway, a sudden AGC problem developed last week. How sudden? Turned it off working OK on a Friday, turned it on Monday and found:

1. No carrier meter indication at all, even on strong signals.
2. Boomy, distorted audio. Turning rf gain way down in AGC or MGC yielded good audio. Obviously no AGC taking place.

First checks showed:

1. Voltage from AGC jumper to ground was +2.5 VDC. Hmmmm. Not good. (this compares to my healthy state of -8 to -10 VDC under strong signal conditions.)
2. Resistance from AGC jumper to ground was only 53K. Again, not good. AGC lines are supposed to be really high impedance circuits, right?
3. Removed the AGC jumper and measured resistance to ground of terminal 3, the short-leg source of AGC back to the AGC detector & time-constant circuitry and got 500K. Voltage was -30 VDC under strong signal conditions. Gobs of negative bias available at 1/2 meg. This seemed better. Terminal 4 to ground, the downstream leg of the AGC line running to both i.f. and r.f. decks, was only 53K and showed +2.5 volts (!)

Seemed I had AGC bias available at the source but a corrupt AGC line was robbing it. Voltage and resistance checks of the mixer tubes and tubes on the i.f. deck confirmed this. Signal grid resistances of controlled tubes were on the order of 40K to 70K instead of 500k. One exception - grid of the second i.f. amp measured essentially open to ground, 50 megohms on the HP-410. Strange. I had records that pin 1 tested at 530K during my first possession of serial 4615. More on that in a moment. Measured bias on signal grids was +1 to +5 VDC, or worse, instead of -.4. Not good. Measured resistance to ground of pin 6 on i.f. deck J512 was 53K. Matched what I got on the AGC jumper but should be infinite at this point. Definitely trouble in the i.f. deck AGC line. I pulled the i.f. deck and concentrated around the 3rd i.f. tube, V503, only because I got the most out-of-spec resistances/voltages there. Replaced C519, the .005 disk ceramic AGC bypass cap to the grid of V503 with a 600V .047 Orange Drop. All of this, concentrating first on V503 and then replacing C519, was simply a good guess. I was lucky. While I had the patient opened up, I also replaced C521, a 0.1 tubular cap in the cathode circuit of V503. Why? Well, C521 looked ugly, unraveling and all, and I was getting abnormal cathode voltage readings, plus, C521 is an easy-to-get-to cap and I had a spare 0.1 tubular cap available! While I could have gone on recapping into the night, on a hunch I put the deck back in the rig and tested infinity on pin 6 of J512. He scores! Signal grid voltages now weakly negative and resistances all about 400K or so.

Felt good. E-mailed Chuck (Rippel) to celebrate. Now to the open-to-ground signal grid on the second i.f. tube. In the schematic I saw R507, a 22K series resistor in the AGC line feeding V507. Maybe its opened. I remove the deck, refer to the TM-35 pictorial to confirm where R507 should be, right in front of S503 under the switch shaft. I look in the deck and it ain't there! I mean, I see "R-507" stenciled on the chassis where it should be but there is no R507 anywhere underneath my i.f. deck and no 22K associated at all with V502! Upon close examination, the solder blob on terminal 8, S503-rear, looks different, as if its been resoldered in the past. Also, the chassis-insulated binding post directly under the switch shaft and just in front of S503, the one that has the AGC line coming into and leaving it, has what looks like the stub remains of a clipped lead disappearing into the solder blob. Hmmm. Looks to me, and the schematic confirms, that R507 is supposed to go from this AGC tie-point to terminal 8 on S503 rear, but it isn't there. Could the guy I briefly swapped my rig to after originally getting it from Jim Stitzinger have made a repair and left out R507, leaving no AGC to the grid? Seems impossible, but it isn't there now and I know pin 1 tested fine at 530K shortly after I got the rig from Jim. I jumpered in a 22K from the AGC post to terminal 8 of S503-rear and confirmed the proper grid to ground resistance, so I soldered it in. V507 now has about 400K to ground and a faint negative bias, like the other i.f. deck AGC-controlled tubes do. About a -0.15 instead of a spec -0.4. Why a little low? Well, though the i.f. deck now specs out "almost" book-perfect and the rig operates fine, I checked the resistance to ground of pin E on J208 on the r.f. deck. This measures the AGC line resistance throughout the r.f. deck. I got 1.5 megohms and, like the i.f. side of the AGC line, it should be infinite. What a drag. So, I still have some "little-bit-leaky" bypass caps on the r.f. deck side that are pulling down the overall negative AGC bias a little from book-spec. Though I've removed the panel, VFO, and all other decks before I've never pulled the r.f. deck. That looks like a put-on-the-coffee-and-order-out-pizza kinda thing. I'm reconciling now whether gaining a couple of tenths of negative bias really warrants tearing down a radio that otherwise sounds and works so well. I'm thinking not. Take two aspirin and call me in the morning, I say to my 390A.

Lessons learned on AGC repair:

1. Guess good!
2. Leaky caps can leak acutely and quickly. Good to bad, like that!
3. An HP-410, or equivalent, is a necessary adjunct to a DVM when troubleshooting. My Fluke DVM is fast, forgiving and a joy for most measurements but you can measure resistances to a much higher ultimate value with a 410 and that can be a sometimes useful diagnostic on very high impedance circuits where cap leakage is suspected. Also, though DVM's are supposed to have a high input impedance, my Fluke gave

apparently erroneous readings on low voltage d.c. on oscillator circuits like around V505, the BFO tube. The HP meter indicated solid spec-values where the Fluke seemed to pull the readings some in this particular application.

4. Maintain up-to-date charts of all pertinent voltages and resistances for YOUR 390A. I photocopy the VR diagrams out of TM-35 and carefully record all the measured values of voltages and resistances for my 390A on them. I have a small library/history of them. Anytime I swap out a tube, make a repair, significant adjustment, etc, I recheck and record new values. This archived history was a tremendous asset to me. That's how I know R-507 was removed during my rig's brief swap/absence from me. Knowing what is spec for the 390A is part of the solution to a circuit problem and can be found in the TM-series. Knowing what is typical of *YOUR* 390A, +/- just-how-much, is the other part and can speed troubleshooting. Keeping accurate, up-to-date, personalized V-R data for your rig is like having its fingerprints.

5. Use resistances on pin 6 on J512, pin 3 on J208, and resistance and voltage on the AGC jumper for a quick and telling peek at overall AGC health.

6. Evaluate what you find in 5. above against how the radio sounds and performs before you go tearing in to it. I know I've got some r.f. side AGC leakage but I can't hear it.

7. Guess good!

Really sorry for the length, Jack and others! Comment and correction happily welcomed. I'm gonna go listen to a great 390A

73

Dan

WB4GRA

Winchester, VA

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 17:03:25 -0500
From: Al Klase <skywaves@bw.webex.net>
To: dmartin@visuallink.com
Cc: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: 390A AGC Repair
Message-ID: <349D922C.6FC728E8@bw.webex.net>

Dan and the Group,

Nice work dan.

Dan Martin wrote:

>

> 6. I know I've got some r.f. side
> AGC leakage but I can't hear it.

No, good news! You probably don't. There's a 1.5 meg resistor, R234, from the AGC bus to ground in the vicinity of the RF amp. in the RF deck.

BTW, my harangue on AGC problems is in the Communications Receivers section of my web page. (URL in sig bloc1.)

73,
Al

--
Al Klase - N3FRQ
skywaves@bw.webex.net
Flemington, NJ 08822
Web Page: <http://www.webex.net/~skywaves/home.htm>

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 17:09:24 EST
From: lrm-brm@juno.com
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: FS Collins 310C2 VFO w/pwr sup
Message-ID: <19971221.160637.4279.0.lrm-brm@juno.com>

Hello.. I have for sale a decent looking unit, all complete, with orig. documents. I don't have any way to check it. Asking \$ 225. plus shipping.
Larry

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 14:33:26 -0800
From: "Arden Allen" <aallen@sirius.com>
To: "Old Tube Radios" <boatanchors@theporch.com>, <dmartin@visuallink.com>
Subject: Re: 390A AGC Repair
Message-ID: <199712212232.0AA16551@mail2.sirius.com>

Dan;

What a lovely Christmas time story. Except if you got into the egg nog instead of coffee and pizza we'd have to wait 'til Easter. Just kidding!!!

> I've learned more about the 390A AGC system.....

Two things I liked:

Singing the virtues of the 410B. I have 22 of them. All rescued from the "gimme \$5 and get it out of my sight" category. Makes me tear up to think about it. Some are in pretty good shape. 19 of them have their AC probe diodes!

Checking for problems by careful control operation. I call this "milking the controls" (I picked that up from some long forgotten guru). I can see you abhor guess-work even though you admitted to doing it in your piece. That comes from experience, the only teacher I know that can survive without tenure (I've got three of 'em in my family).

Have a Happy Holiday. 73

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 17:19:27 -0600 (CST)
From: Bob Roehrig <broehrig@admin.aurora.edu>
To: Boatanchors <boatanchors@sco.theporch.com>
Subject: wanted items
Message-ID: <Pine.ULT.3.96.971221171647.7771B-100000@admin.aurora.edu>

1) Looking for 2 Hallicrafters knobs - these are the smaller ones about 1 inch dia with the metal skirt. I don't care what, if any, markings are on the skirt. Lotsa Hallis used these knobs - must be some around.

2) A SX-28.

"Nostalgia is a thing of the past"
E-mail broehrig@admin.aurora.edu 73 de Bob, K9EUI
CIS: Data / Telecom Aurora University, Aurora, IL
630-844-4898 Fax 630-844-5530

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 18:21:45 -0500
From: "Jack Hart" <wa2hwj@worldnet.att.net>
To: "boatanchors" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: "forsale" <forsale-swap@qth.net>, <heathkit@qth.net>
Subject: Microphones
Message-ID: <19971221232154.AAA11811@default>

"Vintage" microphones for your Heathkit or ??? station...
Electro-Voice 638 Dynamic with 423A push-to-talk

stand.....\$35.00
(two available)
Electro-Voice 423A push-to-talk stand (no
mike).....\$20.00
Astatic D-104 with grip-to-talk "G"
stand.....\$35.00
Astatic D-104 with amplified "G"
stand.....\$45.00
Astatic JT-30 with original wood handle
stand.....\$500.00 (!)
(Only kidding. When I was 13 years old I drove my father crazy until he
bought it for me.
It was my dream microphone...I really don't want to sell it.)
Shipping included...tel# 973-927-7784, New Jersey
73 and Merry Christmas from Jack, WA2HWJ

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 18:07:15 -0800
From: Brian.Harris@sv.sc.philips.com (Brian Harris)
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: mike appraisal
Message-ID: <000E9F1D.001914@svlima.sv.sc.philips.com>

I am looking for information (audio quality, impedance, value, etc.) concerning
a Shure Model 730B, Serial #5890, 'Cardiod Uniplex', Unidirectional Crystal
Microphone. It has an intact wooden handle, three pin connector and aluminum
housing.

Brian Harris WA5UEK

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 16:31:55 -0800
From: "larry W6WUH" <rau@wco.com>
To: "boatanchors" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Small Claims Court + Damage
Message-ID: <199712220033.QAA21439@shell.wco.com>

The way to extract a fast fair settlement from UPS or similar shippers who
destroy radios is to mention that you are filing an action in small claims
court. Really do it if they don't cough up the do re me.

Dollar to a donut.. they all of a sudden will offer to make a fast fair
freindly settlment...I have been in the penalty box before for saying this,
but UPS, being thier own insurance company ,has a vested interest in not
paying claims.

It is probably safe to put a radio on a pallet and ship it by truck than to send it by air...

"Slowly and Majestically" ... thats my motto.

Larry W6WUH

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 16:58:56 -0800
From: "larry W6WUH" <rau@wco.com>
To: "boatanchors" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Safe Radio Transport
Message-ID: <199712220100.RAA27991@shell.wco.com>

I have had very good luck shipping radios via ups and similar carriers using the followng method :

1. Remove approx 40 coil springs from an inner spring mattress and spot weld these to every available surface of the radio,, especially the vulnerable front panel. (dont worry you can grind off the welds later and repaint with GM touch up paint and then silk screen.)
2. Wrap the entire radio with a 4 inch layer of bubble wrap.
- 3.. Seal completely with Duct Tape.
4. Wrap with 4 inch layer of cotton mattress ticking... sewing flowered mattress cover neatly over package.. make sure the "Do Not Remove Label Under Penalty of Law{" label is prominently displayed.
5. Wrap again with shrink wrap plastic followed by a layer of silvered mylar (space blanket)
6. drill 3/16 " hole exactly 4 and 9/32" deep and insert meat thermometer... seal with RTV silicaone rubber (mil spec).
7. With the help of two neighbors.. place parcel gently in the middle of the transport vehilce.. and place all the family bedding around the item to be shipped. Garnish with parsley if you like.
8. Drive to UPS shipping point, but do not stop.
9. Procede directly to point of delivery.. avoiding international boundaries, and all drug and sobriety check points.

10. Open carefully, or you will wreck a perfectly good radio with the utility knife ... like I did !
Or whack off a digit.

Sorry.. couldnt be here april first.. but have a good holiday !!!!

(A toast to all assembled ! hic)

larry

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 19:09:53 CST
From: jackiv@juno.com (John M Iverson)
To: aallen@sirius.com
Cc: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Re: 390A AGC Repair -- 410B story
Message-ID: <19971221.202218.3686.0.jackiv@juno.com>

Hi gang. in all your rummaging around has any one found a spare adapter for the 410 B which will allow direct measurement of coax center conductor voltages.. Don't know the HP number. sorry . Happy Holidays to all
jack
Jack Iverson K0EWU jackiv@juno.com RCA , QCWA, ARCI, IEEE LM, ARRL-

AMI 645

On Sun, 21 Dec 1997 14:33:26 -0800 "Arden Allen" <aallen@sirius.com> writes:
>Dan;
>
>What a lovely Christmas time story. Except if you got into the egg
>nog
>instead of coffee and pizza we'd have to wait 'til Easter. Just
>kidding!!!
>
>> I've learned more about the 390A AGC system.....
>
>Two things I liked:
>
>Singing the virtues of the 410B. I have 22 of them. All rescued from
>the

>"gimme \$5 and get it out of my sight" category. Makes me tear up to
>think
>about it. Some are in pretty good shape. 19 of them have their AC
>probe
>diodes!
>
>Checking for problems by careful control operation. I call this
>"milking
>the controls" (I picked that up from some long forgotten guru). I can
>see
>you abhor guess-work even though you admitted to doing it in your
>piece.
>That comes from experience, the only teacher I know that can survive
>without tenure (I've got three of 'em in my family).
>
>Have a Happy Holiday. 73
>
>

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 21:31:21 EST
From: lrm-brm@juno.com
To: boatanchors@theporch.com
Subject: Collins 310C2 spoken for.
Message-ID: <19971221.202750.4439.1.lrm-brm@juno.com>

See Subject.. 73's.. Larry

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 21:41:09 EST
From: Ho4bart <Ho4bart@aol.com>
To: boatanchors@sco.theporch.com
Subject: shipbreaking in the USA
Message-ID: <54feac49.349dd347@aol.com>

standard claimer: posted because this may be a "lead" for BA
enthusiasts near these coastal cities to possibly scrounge some
electronics, if not whole radios (which may possibly hit the surplus
market via another route), then maybe control boxes, antennas,
manuals, publications,whatever is left.....

www.sunspot.net/shipbreakers/

synopsis: Baltimore Sun 12/07/97 article: downsizing of Navy promised
a bonanza for dozen US shipbreakers that opened since 1991. pollution
and accident record now cause Navy to rethink program, possibly send

its ships to south asia, where just about every other ship in the world ends up, and where no one cares about pollution or death rate. 111 ships are still designated for breakup. Breakers at Brownsville TX, Baltimore, Chesapeake, Quonset Point, Wilmington, San Francisco, and Terminal Island (?) CA. several photos.

if i lived near one of these sites, i would investigate what might be available.....

hue miller

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 19:42:25 -0800 (PST)
From: Ken Gordon <keng@uidaho.edu>
To: boatanchors@sco.theporch.com
Subject: Swan 350C...and...
Message-ID: <Pine.BSF.3.95.971221193927.14542A-100000@piobaire.mines.uidaho.edu>

A friend gave me a Swan 350C with which there is a small box labeled Noise Blanker model NB-500 for which there is no documentation. Anyone know what this thing is, and or have a schematic or connetion diagram for it? It was made by Swan, but that is all I know.

Ken W7EKB

Date: Sun, 21 Dec 1997 19:52:34 -0800
From: Ken Brookner <brooknerk@acm.org>
To: "'boatanchors@theporch.com'" <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: DX-60 hum
Message-ID: <01BD0E49.FC4936E0@brooknerk@acm.org>

I've got a DX60 that I'm putting back into shape. I've replaced all of the electrolytics, except for the "can," and have fixed more cold solder and bigger the blob solder jobs than I can count. It's an improvement, but it still hums some in CW and more in AM. I note that there is a Heath service bulletin calling for the addition of a 100 ohm 7 watt resistor and a 40mfd 450V cap (bulletin dx-60-1d). I'd appreciate it if someone could tell me where this mod was added--the links I've found on the net give the component values but don't include the schematic.

Any other DX60 tips will be appreciated.

Also, thanks to everyone that has helped me during the past year. I've tried to respond to everyone individually and hope that I didn't leave

anyone out. Happy holidays!

73

kenb N5LPI

Ken Brookner

brooknerk@acm.org

kenb@qatrix.panther.net

End of BOATANCHORS Digest 1844
